Table 1-4 Laws That Protect Natural and Cultural Resources

Regulation/Authority	Summary	
Abandoned Shipwreck Act, 43 U.S.C. Sec 2101 et seq.	Transfers title of abandoned shipwrecks in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places or in protected coral formations (except shipwrecks on federal or Native American lands) to state jurisdiction	
American Indian Religious Freedom Act, 42 U.S.C. Sec 1996	Protects and preserves religious freedoms of Native Americans, including access to religious sites and consultation with tribal leadership concerning human burial sites that federal projects might disturb	
Antiquities Act of 1906, 16 U.S.C. Sec 431-433	Protects historic and prehistoric ruins and objects of antiquity on federal lands. Authorizes scientific investigation of antiquities on federal lands, subject to permits and other regulatory requirements, including paleontological resources	
Archeological and Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. Sec 469-469c	Directs federal agencies to notify the Secretary of the Interior when they find that any Federal construction project or federally licensed activity or program may cause irreparable loss or destruction of significant scientific, prehistoric, historical, or archeological data. Also funds historical and archeological protection in such projects	
Archeological Resources Protection Act, 16 U.S.C. Sec 470aa-470ll	Prohibits the removal, sale, receipt, and interstate transportation of archeological resources obtained illegally (without permits) from public or Indian lands. Sets substantial criminal and civil penalties and authorizes federal agency permit procedures for investigations of archeological resources on public lands under the agency's control	
Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, 16 U.S.C. Sec 668	Governs activities and facilities that may threaten protected birds	
Coastal Barrier Resources Act, 16 U.S.C. Sec 3501 et seq.	Restricts federal expenditures and financial assistance encouraging development of coastal barriers and associated habitats	
Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C. Sec 1451-1464; 15 CFR 921- 933	Encourages states along oceans and Great Lakes to adopt Coastal Zone Management Plans (CZMP) which require any applicant for a federal permit to certify that its project is consistent with the state CZMP	
Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. Sec 1531-1544; 50 CFR 17, 401-424, 450-453	Requires protection of threatened or endangered species by prohibiting activities and facilities that would have an adverse effect on them	
Estuary Protection Act, 16 U.S.C. Sec 1221-1226	Requires consideration by states and federal agencies of the need to protect, conserve, and restore estuaries	

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Regulation/Authority	Summary	
Farmland Protection Act, 7 U.S.C. Sec 4201 et seq.	Requires federal agencies to consider the effects of programs on farmland and to prevent conversion of farmland to nonagricultural uses	
Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act, 7 U.S.C. Sec 136 et seq.; 40 CFR 152-186	Establishes a registration program for pesticide and other substances. Governs disposal of pesticides and pesticide containers	
Federal Land Policy and Management Act, 43 U.S.C. Sec 1701 et seq.	Governs retention, management, land-use planning, disposal, and acquisition of public lands; requires regulation of use and occupancy of public lands	
Federal Noxious Weed Act, 7 U.S.C. Sec 2801 et seq.	Regulates movement of nonnative weeds that can be injurious to crops, livestock, or wildlife	
Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 16 U.S.C. Sec 2901 et seq.	Provides financial and technical assistance to states for creation and implementation of conservation programs for nongame fish and wildlife and encourages federal agencies to conserve nongame fish and wildlife	
Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (FWCA), 16 U.S.C. Sec 661-666c	Requires persons to consult with federal and state agencies when modifying, controlling, or impounding a surface water body over 4 hectares in size	
Forest and Rangeland Resources, 16 U.S.C. Sec 1600-1614, 1641-1647, 1671-1676, 1681-1687	Four acts that govern the management, conservation, and utilization of national forest and rangeland renewable resources	
Historic Sites Act, 16 U.S.C. Sec 461-467	Authorizes designation of national historic sites and landmarks and interagency efforts to preserve historic resources	
Marine Mammal Protection Act, 16 U.S.C. Sec 1361 et seq.	Requires protection of threatened and endangered marine mammals; provides fines for harming marine mammals	
Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act, 33 U.S.C. Sec 1401-1445	Declares that it is national policy to regulate dumping of all types of materials into ocean waters, and to prevent or strictly limit ocean dumping of any material that would adversely affect human health or the marine environment	
Migratory Bird Conservation Act, 16 U.S.C. Sec 715 et seq.	Establishes Migratory Bird Conservation Commission to recommend for purchase, rental, or acquisition by the Department of the Interior land or water suitable for use for migratory bird conservation	
Migratory Bird Treaty Act, 16 U.S.C. Sec 703-712	Governs activities that may affect or threaten migratory birds or their habitats	
National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. Sec 470-470w-6; 36 CFR 60, 63, 68, 800; Executive Order 11593	Establishes historic preservation as a national priority; protects, rehabilitates, restores, and reconstructs districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant in American history, architecture, archeology, or engineering. Section 106 of the NHPA establishes a process to identify conflicts between historic preservation concerns (e.g. properties included on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places) and federal undertakings	

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Regulation/Authority	Summary
Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, 25 U.S.C. Sec 3001-3013	Prohibits the intentional removal of Native American cultural items from federal or tribal lands except under an Archeological Resource Protection Act permit and in consultation with the appropriate Native American groups. Requires returning burial remains, associated funerary objects, and objects of cultural patrimony to the appropriate Indian or Native Hawaiian organizations and tribes. Establishes Native American ownership of human remains and associated funerary objects discovered on federal lands.
Public Buildings Cooperative Use Act, 40 U.S.C. Sec 490, 601a, 606, 611, 612a	Encourages adaptive reuse of historic buildings as administrative facilities for federal agencies or activities
Rivers and Harbors Act, 33 U.S.C. Sec 401 et seq.	Requires approval of the Secretary of the Army and the Chief of Engineers for construction of a bridge, dam, or dike over navigable waters
Sikes Act, 16 U.S.C. Sec 670a-670o	Authorizes the Secretary of Defense to carry out a program of planning, development, maintenance, and coordination of wildlife, fish, and game conservation and rehabilitation on military reservations. Also requires the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture to establish conservation programs on public lands
Soil and Water Resources Conservation Act, 16 U.S.C. Sec 2001 et seq.	Creates coordinated soil and water conservation program to identify and address long-term national needs
Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (WPFPA), 16 U.S.C. Sec 1001 et seq.; 33 U.S.C. Sec 701-1; Executive Order 11988	Governs reservoir development and stream modification projects including specific wildlife habitat improvements
Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (WSRA) 16 U.S.C. Sec 1271 et seq.	Preserves and protects the free-flowing condition of selected rivers. Established a national Wild and Scenic Rivers System
Wilderness Act 16 U.S.C. Sec 1131-1136	Establishes a National Wilderness Preservation System and restricts uses of designated wilderness areas
Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act 16 U.S.C. Sec 1331- 1340	Protects from capture, harassment, and death free-roaming horses and burros, and considers them part of the natural system of public lands

Created By: JFL	Issue No.:0	Revision No.:0
Approved By: JC	Chapter 1- Table 1-4	Date: 30 September 1999